2017 - 2018 LRCC Officers

Darrel Gardner (Chair)



Darrel Gardner is a federal public defender in Anchorage, Alaska. Mr. Gardner was born in the Territory of Alaska shortly before statehood. He is currently chair elect of the Ninth Circuit Lawyer Representatives Coordinating Committee and a member of the Ninth Circuit Conference Executive Committee. Mr. Gardner is also president-elect of the Alaska Bar Association, and secretary of the criminal section of the Federal Bar Association. He received his bachelor's degree from Santa Clara University, and his J.D. from the University of California, Hastings College of the Law, in San Francisco. He has worked in private practice, including his own law office, as well as serving as a state and now federal public criminal defense lawyer. In 2009, he helped to found the Alaska Association of Criminal Defense Lawyers, and he has served as president of that organization. Mr. Gardner is a fellow of both the American Bar Foundation and the Federal Bar Foundation.

John "Jay" McEntire (Chair-Elect)



Jay McEntire is the senior litigator for the Federal Defenders of Eastern Washington and Idaho. He primarily represents clients charged with white collar offenses, as well as serious assaults and murders in Indian County. He also teaches trial advocacy, advanced legal writing, and advanced federal criminal procedure at Gonzaga University School of Law. Before joining the Federal Defenders, he spent two-and-a-half years clerking for the Honorable Edward F. Shea, U.S. District Court – Eastern District of Washington.

Doreen Spears Hartwell (Vice Chair)



Doreen Spears Hartwell has a boutique law firm in Las Vegas, Nevada that specializes in employment law and business litigation. Her litigation practice includes employment law, trade secret, non-compete claims, real estate, trust-probate matters and a wide range of other business-related disputes.

She has successfully defended employers in cases involving wrongful termination, breach of contract, discrimination and/or harassment in violation of Title VII, the ADA, the ADEA and state employment statutes. She also has substantial experience in successfully bringing breach of contract, trade secret, and noncompete claims on behalf of her clients.